

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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USIA-15 DRC-01 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 NEAE-00

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P 111220Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5741
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: NJXA
TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF
SUBJ: BHUTTO CASTIGATES AFGHANISTAN

1. PRIMIN BHUTTO DEPARTED ISLAMABAD JULY 9 ON WEEK-LONG TOUR OF NORTHWEST FRONTIER PROVINCE, INCLUDING NORTHERN AREAS OF DIR, MALAKAND, SWAT AND CHITRAL. AFTER DAY OF CEREMONIALS AND POLITICKING IN PESHAWAR, HE WENT ON TO DIR JULY 10 TO GIVE FIRST MAJOR SPEECH OF HIS TOUR.

2. MUCH OF HIS SPEECH IN DIR WAS DEVOTED TO DOMESTIC AFFAIRS AND ROUTINE SWIPES AT INDIA. ACCORDING HEADLINE PRESS ACCOUNTS, HOWEVER, HIS HARSHTEST WORDS WERE DIRECTED AT AFGHANISTAN. CHARGING THAT AFGHANISTAN SOMETIMES LAYS CLAIM TO PAKISTAN TERRITORY, HE DECLARED THAT "I MUST TELL THE AFGHAN RULERS IN CLEAR TERMS THAT THIS IS PAKISTANI TERRITORY AND PAKISTAN KNOWS QUITE WELL HOW TO DEFEND IT." FOREIGN ADVENTURERS MAY HAVE BEEN TEMPTED BY PAKISTAN'S WEAKNESS AFTER 1971 WAR, BUT THOSE DAYS WERE GONE AND PAKISTAN WAS NOW STRONG. IF AFGHANISTAN TRIED TO INDULGE
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IN ANY ADVENTURES, BHUTTO WARNED, "THE RULERS OF KABUL

WILL HAVE SOMETHING TO LOSE RATHER THAN TO GAIN."

3. CONTINUING, PRIMIN SAID AFGHANS WERE EXCEEDINGLY POOR, NEEDED DEVELOPMENT AND MIGHT WELL ENVY PROGRESS MADE BY PAKISTAN. PAKISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT "HAS CAUSED A GOOD DEAL OF WORRY TO THE RULERS OF THESE NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WHO ARE UNABLE TO SATISFY THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THEIR OWN PEOPLE". FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, THEY HAD BETTER REMEMBER THAT AFGHANISTAN ITSELF CONSISTS OF MANY ETHNIC GROUPS OF WHICH PATHANS ARE ONLY SMALL MINORITY. HE WAS NOT SUGGESTING THAT AFGHANISTAN BE SPLIT UP INTO DIFFERENT COUNTRIES ON LINGUISTIC LINES. THERE WERE, AFTER ALL, TWO SEPARATE GERMANIES, EACH SPEAKING SEPARATE LANGUAGES, AND IN THE GERMAN UNION DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES

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246. ALL THESE THINGS ARE, HE SAID, SHOW THAT PEOPLE SPEAKING DIFFERENT LANGUAGES COULD LIVE TOGETHER IN ONE COUNTRY. KEEPING THIS IN MIND, IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT PAKISTAN WOULD NEVER ACCEPT HAVING ANY OF ITS PEOPLE GO OFF TO JOIN SOME OTHER COUNTRY. MOREOVER, GOA HAD YET TO FRAME A CONSTITUTION AND "IT HAS TO BE SEEN WHAT THE NEW AFGHAN CONSTITUTION PROVIDES AND WHAT IT GIVES TO THE POOR PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN".

4. CONCLUDING HIS REMARKS ON AFGHANISTAN, PRIMIN COMPLAINED THAT THERE HAD BEEN TWO RECENT INCIDENTS IN WHICH SACRILEGIOUS ACTS HAVE BEEN COMMITTED INCLUDING BURNING OF KORAN AND DESECRATION OF MOSQUES. THESE CRIMES, HE CHARGED, HAD BEEN COMMITTED BY AFGHAN AGENTS TO AROUSE PASSIONS OF PAKISTANI PEOPLE AND "IF ANYBODY TRIES TO ATTEMPT ANYTHING AGAINST PAKISTAN WE WILL INFLICT A PUNISHMENT THAT THE ENEMY WILL REMEMBER FOREVER." PRIMIN DID NOT FURTHER IDENTIFY THE INCIDENTS.

5. COMMENT: BHUTTO USED HIS LAST TRIP TO NWFP IN 1973 FOR SERIES OF SPEECHES HARSHLY CRITICIZING AFGHANISTAN. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THUS FAR IT APPEARS THAT THIS VISIT MAY BE REPEAT OF EARLIER ONE. BY ROAD

NOTE BY OC/T: ##CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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